

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 974

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Sherri Brinkley, on her selection as East Tennessee ESL Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Sherri Brinkley is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Sherri Brinkley was recently chosen as the East Tennessee English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher of the Year at the Tennessee Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TNTESOL) Conference, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, a teacher for thirteen years, Sherri Brinkley received her bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and is currently doing undergraduate work in education; and

WHEREAS, currently teaching students in grades six through twelve at Vonore Middle School, Sequoyah High School, and Sweetwater High School, Sherri Brinkley was nominated for the award by Monroe County Title III Director Dan Schlafer; and

WHEREAS, the first certified ESL teacher in the Monroe County School System, Ms. Brinkley founded and implemented the system's ESL program from scratch and has gone above and beyond her normal teaching duties to reach out to her students as expressed through her personal motto of "once my kids, always my kids"; and

WHEREAS, she is noted for her flawless recordkeeping and has helped Monroe County's Title I Accountability and District Status reach "Good Standing" and meet all three Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives for two consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, Sherri Brinkley is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Sherri Brinkley truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, the impact she has made on her students is best shown by the actions of two of her former students who recommended her to their employer, Sweetwater corporation Aeroflex, who then offered her the job of teaching adult ESL classes to their Thai employees; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, Sherri Brinkley is most appreciative of the love, support, and companionship she shares with her family; and

WHEREAS, Sherri Brinkley truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Sherri Brinkley on being chosen as East Tennessee ESL Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.